

PRAYER

The Chaplain, the Reverend James David Ford, D.D., offered the following prayer:

Give us, O gracious God, the full measure of Your blessings and on this day we pray for the gift of patience. We are busy with our lives and our work and we move quickly to seize the opportunity and run toward the mark. Yet we know too, O God, that some parts of life take time and need nurture and growth and cannot be hurried. We are grateful for those occasions when time is our friend and allows us the opportunity to experience wisdom and healing and growth. May our rush to accomplish never blind us from the fact that the gift of patience can be our strength and our friend, and a gift for all time. This is our earnest prayer. Amen.

THE JOURNAL

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The Chair has examined the Journal of the last day's proceedings and announces to the House his approval thereof.

Pursuant to clause 1, rule I, the Journal stands approved.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Will the gentleman from North Carolina (Mr. BALLENGER) come forward and lead the House in the Pledge of Allegiance.

Mr. BALLENGER led the Pledge of Allegiance as follows:

I pledge allegiance to the Flag of the United States of America, and to the Republic for which it stands, one nation under God, indivisible, with liberty and justice for all.

WITHOUT A REPUBLICAN MAJORITY IN CONGRESS, THE DEMOCRATS WOULD SPEND THE BUDGET SURPLUS

(Mr. BALLENGER asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. BALLENGER. Mr. Speaker the President proposed a budget with \$200 billion deficits as far as the eye could see only a few short years ago. Republicans refused to accept his budget and insisted instead on a balanced budget, and the liberals called us the extremists. They called us mean-spirited. They accused us of being right wing. It is all so familiar.

But now the President takes credit for what the Republicans worked for since 1995, just like welfare reform. No matter, Republicans have put America on the road to fiscal responsibility by balancing our books and starting to pay down the \$5 trillion debt. Now it is time for some tax relief, too. Debt reduction and tax relief, that is what the budget surplus should go towards.

Democrats have other ideas: No tax cuts. Those who believe the rhetoric about debt reduction are being naive

and historically mistaken. They will spend the surplus. It will not stay in Washington, especially if Republicans are no longer in the majority.

ANNOUNCING THE DEATH OF THE HONORABLE LYNN STALBAUM, FORMER MEMBER OF CONGRESS FROM WISCONSIN

(Mr. OBEY asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. OBEY. Mr. Speaker, it is my duty as Dean of the Wisconsin delegation to announce the death of a former Member, the Honorable Lynn Stalbaum, who served Wisconsin's first District in 1965 and 1966. During his service in Congress he served with distinction on the Committee on Agriculture.

Before his service in Congress he served on a destroyer for 2 years during World War II. He was the assistant minority Leader in the Wisconsin State Senate, where he served for 10 years. He was once described by Aldric Revell, the dean of State Capitol correspondents, as being a legislator who had the maddening tendency to expect reason to dominate legislative debate.

After he left Congress he worked for dairy farmers for a number of years trying to help increase milk prices. He served as the President of Pilgrim Lutheran Church in Bethesda. He also ran a tax filing business, and he taught on a number of occasions, he taught H&R Block people how to do tax returns, so he knew his way around the Tax Code.

He was always an individual of immense good cheer. He was also a person who never forgot that our job here is to work for the common man, and he did that every day of his career, both in the State legislature and in the Congress. Services will be held at Joseph Gawler's & Sons, 5130 Wisconsin Avenue, Wednesday night at 7:30. Visitation will be tonight between 7 and 9 o'clock.

We all, I am sure, send our sympathies to his family.

A SALUTE TO THE VETERANS OF FOREIGN WARS

(Mr. GIBBONS asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. GIBBONS. Mr. Speaker, as a life member of Post 3819 of the Veterans of Foreign Wars in Reno, Nevada, I rise today to express my strongest support of House Joint Resolution 34 commending the 100 anniversary of the Veterans of Foreign Wars.

Honoring the dead by helping the living has been the VFW motto, and a lasting call to the 2 million members who help and honor those deserving veterans because of the service and commitment they gave to this country.

The Veterans of Foreign Wars of the United States traces its roots back to

Columbus, Ohio, on September 29, 1899, nearly 100 years ago. And because of this, House Joint Resolution 34 calls upon the President to issue a proclamation recognizing the 100th anniversary of the VFW, and would call upon the people of the United States to also observe the anniversary with appropriate ceremonies and celebrations.

Recognition of military service and remembrance of the sacrifices made in the Nation's defense are among the major purposes of the VFW. Therefore, it is only fitting that this Congress, the very body that makes the decisions of war, should honor the veterans of foreign wars.

To the VFW, I salute them for their honor, their valor, and their continued achievements. God bless them.

ANNOUNCING FIELD HEARING OF HOUSE SUBCOMMITTEE ON EARLY CHILDHOOD, YOUTH AND FAMILIES IN ANAHEIM, CALIFORNIA

(Ms. SANCHEZ asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend her remarks.)

Ms. SANCHEZ. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to report that next week the Subcommittee on Early Childhood, Youth, and Families will be holding a congressional hearing in my district in Anaheim, California, and will talk about parenting and community involvement in education.

Kids today bring so many needs to the classroom, and we are all responsible for what happens, and to make sure that those needs are met, parents and teachers and educators, Federal, State, and local government, the corporate and the nonprofit sectors, our institutions of higher education and our law enforcement agencies.

Teachers cannot meet the needs alone. Parents cannot do it alone. It is too late when our kids get to the universities. Recent events all over our Nation have proven that our young people certainly cannot make it on their own.

Schools need adequate resources, especially those with the children and the families who need it the most, so our schools can focus on education instead of fundraising. That falls to all of us. So we are going to be discussing how our communities can and should be working together. We will hear from parents and teachers and students and members of the community on how to do that.

Our children will take our Nation to wonderful new heights in the 21st century.

THE RIGHTS OF PARENTS UNDER ATTACK AT UNITED NATIONS' CAIRO PLUS 5 PREP CONFERENCE

(Mr. PITTS asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)